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| Ayatollah Khamenei's message to young people in Europe and North America 01/11/1393 |
| The recent events in France and similar ones in some other Western countries have convinced me to directly talk to you about them. |
| I am addressing you, [the youth]… rather it is because the future of your nations and countries will be in your hands; and also I find that the sense of quest for truth is more vigorous and attentive in your hearts. | Addressed |
| I would like to talk to you about Islam, particularly the image that is presented to you as Islam. | Subject matter |
| why the public conscience in the West awakens and comes to its senses after a delay of several decades or centuries. | Questions |
| Why should the revision of collective conscience apply to the distant past and not to the current problems? |
| Why is it that attempts are made to prevent public awareness regarding an important issue such as the treatment of Islamic culture and thought? |
| Why should the revision of collective conscience apply to the distant past and not to the current problems? |
| Why does the power structure in the world want Islamic thought to be marginalized and remain latent? |
| What concepts and values in Islam disturb the programs of the super powers and what interests are safeguarded in the shadow of distorting the image of Islam? |
| I would like to ask you whether you have directly read the Qur’an of the Muslims. |
| Have you studied the teachings of the Prophet of Islam and his humane, ethical doctrines? |
| Have you ever received the message of Islam from any sources other than the media? |
| Have you ever asked yourself how and on the basis of which values has Islam established the greatest scientific and intellectual civilization of the world and raised the most distinguished scientists and intellectuals throughout several centuries? |
| My first request is: Study and research the incentives behind this widespread tarnishing of the image of Islam. | Requests |
| My second request is that in reaction to the flood of prejudgments and disinformation campaigns, try to gain a direct and firsthand knowledge of this religion. |
| Don’t allow this dynamic and effective reality in today’s world to be introduced to you through resentments and prejudices. | Precautions |
| Don’t allow them to hypocritically introduce their own recruited terrorists as representatives of Islam. |
| I would like you not to allow the derogatory and offensive image-buildings to create an emotional gulf between you and the reality, taking away the possibility of an impartial judgment from you. |
| Today, the communication media have removed the geographical borders. Hence, don’t allow them to besiege you within fabricated and mental borders. |
| Receive knowledge of Islam from its primary and original sources. | To Understanding Islam |
| Gain information about Islam through the Qur’an and the life of its great Prophet. |
| While this preplanned challenge between Islam and you, the youth, is undesirable, it can raise new questions in your curious and inquiring minds. | Conclusion |
| Therefore, don’t miss the opportunity to gain proper, correct and unbiased understanding of Islam |